Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 119, line 17, with the following redlined paragraph:

PCR was used to generate the monocot chloroplast-targeting sequence that was fused to the N-terminus of E. coli CPL. The target for amplification was the maizerbcS gene (GenBank accession number Y00322), which codes for the Rubisco small subunit precursor. Primer 1 (5'-CTA CTC ATA ACC ATG GCG CCC ACCGTG-3') (SEQ ID NO: 54) hybridized to nucleotides489-505 and introduced aNcol site at the start codon of the transit peptide.

Primer 2 (5'-CAT CTT ACT CAT ATG CCG CAC CTG CAT GCA CCG GAT CCT TCC G-3') (SEQ ID NO: 55) hybridized to nucleotides 616-639 and introduced anNdel site five amino acid residues downstream from the chloroplast cleavage site. The PCR product was cut withNcol and Ndel and inserted into pET24a-tTP-CPL (manuscript in preparation), after the latter was cleaved with the same enzymes. pET24a-tTP-CPL contains the gene for a chimeric protein that consists of the tomato Rubisco small subunit transit peptide plus the first four amino acid residues of the'mature'Rubisco small subunit, fused to the N- terminus ofE. coli CPL. The plasmid DNA was cut with Ncol and Ndel to remove the tomato chloroplast-targeting sequence, and this was replaced with PCR-generated maize chloroplast-targeting sequence. The ligation mixture was introduced into E.coli DH1OB, and growth was selected on LB media containing kanamycin (50 g mL-1). A representative plasmid (pET24a-cTP-CPL) was sequenced and no PCR errors were found. The predicted chloroplast cleavage product of thecTP-CPL fusion protein is a CPL variant with five extra N-terminal amino acid residues (i. e. MQVRH-CPL) (SEQ ID NO: 56).

In the Specification:

Please delete the section of the application entitled "Sequence Listing" immediately after Claim 12 on page 129 and insert the enclosed Sequence Listing therefor.